

IN THE CLAIMS

Applicant provides the following complete listing of all the claims in the application that shows the status of all pending claims and markings to show current changes:

1. (Currently Amended) In a display sign having a support plate, a plurality of cards, and a hinge that retains each of the cards to enable the cards to be folded from one side of the hinge to another side of the hinge to display numerals, the improvement comprising:

a retaining member having a periphery containing a lobe portion and being rotatable from a retaining position, wherein the lobe portion overlies an edge portion of one of the cards, to an open position, wherein the lobe portion is free of the edge portion of said one of the cards; and

a lock assembly on the retaining member that includes a threaded member that is rotatable between a locked position, preventing rotation of the retaining member while in the retaining position, and an unlocked position that allows rotation of the retaining member from the retaining to the open position, the lock assembly further comprises an aperture formed in the support plate and a lug on the retaining member that engages the aperture while the threaded member is in the locked position and disengages from the aperture while the threaded member is in the unlocked position.

2. (Currently Amended) The display sign according to claim 1 ~~claim 1~~, wherein the lock assembly further comprises a threaded receptacle stationarily carried by the support plate, the threaded member engaging the threaded receptacle.

3. (Original) The display sign according to claim 1, wherein the retaining member is rotatable about an axis of the threaded member between the retaining and open positions.

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

5. (Original) The display sign according to claim 1, wherein the lock assembly moves the retaining member toward the support plate while the threaded member is being rotated in one direction and away from the support plate while the threaded member is being rotated in an opposite direction.

6. (Currently Amended) The display sign according to claim 1, wherein ~~the lock assembly further comprises an aperture formed in the support plate and a lug on the retaining member that engages the aperture while the threaded member is in the locked position and disengages from the aperture while the threaded member is in the unlocked position~~, the lug is being located on a periphery of the retaining member opposite from the lobe portion.

7. (Currently Amended) The display sign according to claim 1, wherein:

the lock assembly member moves the retaining member toward the support plate while the threaded member is being rotated toward the locked position and away from the support plate while the threaded member is being rotated toward the unlocked position; and

the retaining member is biased toward the support plate.

Claims 8 – 11 (Cancelled).

12. (Original) A display sign, comprising:

a support plate;

at least one card;

a fastener having a head and a threaded shank that engages a threaded receptacle mounted to the support plate adjacent an edge of the card;

a retaining member having a cavity through which the shank of the fastener extends, the retaining member being rotatable about an axis of the shank from a retaining position overlying an edge of the card to an open position free of the edge of the card;

an aperture in the support plate adjacent the fastener;

a lug on the retaining member for selective engagement with the aperture when the retaining member is in the retaining position, preventing rotation of the retaining member to the open position; and wherein

rotating the fastener in a first direction moves the head closer toward the support plate to a locked position, wherein the head of the fastener prevents the lug from disengagement with the aperture, and rotating the fastener in a second direction moves the head away from the support plate to an unlocked position, wherein the head of the fastener allows the lug to be disengaged from the aperture.

13. (Original) The display sign according to claim 12, further comprising a spring mounted between the head of the fastener and the retaining member for urging the retaining member toward the support plate.

14. (Original) The display sign according to claim 12, wherein the threaded receptacle is stationarily mounted to a rearward side of the support plate, and the shank of the fastener protrudes from a forward side of the support plate.

15. (Original) The display sign according to claim 12, wherein the spring comprises a coil spring encircling the shank of the fastener, the spring being compressed between the head of the fastener and a shoulder formed in the cavity.

16. (Original) The display sign according to claim 12, wherein the retaining member has a periphery that includes a lobe portion and a clearance portion, the lobe portion protruding radially farther from the axis than the clearance portion to overly an edge of the card.

17. (Original) The display sign according to claim 12, wherein the head of the fastener bears against the retaining member while in the locked position.

18. (Original) The display sign according to claim 12, wherein:

the retaining member has a periphery that includes a lobe portion and a clearance portion, the lobe portion protruding radially farther from the axis of the shank than the clearance portion to overly an edge of the card; and

the lug is located on the periphery of the retaining member opposite from the lobe portion.

19. (New) In a display sign having a support plate, a plurality of cards, and a hinge that retains each of the cards to enable the cards to be folded from one side of the hinge to another side of the hinge to display numerals, the improvement comprising:

a retaining member having a periphery containing a lobe portion and being rotatable from a retaining position, wherein the lobe portion overlies an edge portion of one of the cards, to an open position, wherein the lobe portion is free of the edge portion of said one of the cards, the retaining member being biased toward the support plate; and

a lock assembly on the retaining member that includes a threaded member that is rotatable between a locked position, preventing rotation of the retaining member while in the retaining position, and an unlocked position that allows rotation of the retaining member from the retaining to the open position, the lock assembly moves the retaining member toward the support plate while the threaded member is being rotated toward the locked position and away from the support plate while the threaded member is being rotated toward the unlocked position.

20. (New) The display sign according to claim 1, wherein the lock assembly further comprises a threaded receptacle stationarily carried by the support plate, the threaded member engaging the threaded receptacle.

21. (New) The display sign according to claim 1, wherein the retaining member is rotatable about an axis of the threaded member between the retaining and open positions.

22. (New) The display sign according to claim 1, wherein the threaded member is rotated in one direction while moving the retaining member toward the locked position, and rotated in an opposite direction while moving the retaining member toward the unlocked position.